

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-44 (Canceled).

45. (Currently Amended) A method of filtering fluids comprising the steps of:

- (a) flowing at least two fluids into a housing;
- (b) passing the fluids around a filter element partially surrounded by an a non-permeable barrier at the lower end of the filter element;
- (c) allowing the fluids to separate by gravity into a lighter fluid and a heavier fluid so that the lighter fluid can flow above the sleeve in the housing above the barrier;
- (d) further passing the lighter fluid through a filter media;
- (e) collecting the lighter fluid in a perforated cylinder core after passing through the filter element; and
- (f) collecting the heavier fluid in the housing.

46. (Original) A method of filtering fluids of claim 45 wherein the fluid mixture contains solids and additionally filtering the solids by the filter element.

Claims 47-48. (Canceled)